network 16) and device 22. Of course, as one will appreciate, connection of a computing device such as device 22 to device 18 is entirely optional. Device 18, accordingly, does not need to include interface 36.–

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, 11, and 13 as follows:

1. (once amended) A method of requesting operations and management data from a telephony switch at a computing device, said telephony switch and said computing device in communication with a packet switched data network, said method comprising:

a. establishing a connection between said computing device and said telephony switch over said packet switched data network;

b. forming at least one packet comprising:

i. a network address identifying said telephony switch on said packet switched data network;

ii. a network address identifying said computing device;

iii. a first message type identifier, identifying a message contained at least partially within said packet, as a data request message;

iv. a second message type identifier, identifying a type of operations and management data requested from said telephony switch;

c. forwarding said packet from said computing device to said telephony switch using said data network.

4. (once amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said message comprises an internet protocol compliant network message.

7. (once amended) A method of providing operations and management data from a telephony switch to a computing device, said telephony switch and said computing device in communication with a packet switched data network, said method comprising:

a. in response to a request from operations and management data, forming at least one packet comprising:

i. a network address identifying said telephony switch on said packet switched data network;

ii. a network address identifying said computing device;

iii. a first message type identifier, identifying said packet as at least partially containing a message formed in response to a request;

iv. a second message type identifier, identifying a type of operations and management data provided by said packet;

b. forwarding said packet from said telephony switch to said computing device using said data network.

11. (once amended) A method of exchanging operations and management data between a telephony switch and a computing device, said telephony switch and said computing device in communication with a packet switched data network, said method comprising:

a. establishing at least first and second network connections between said computing device and said telephony switch over said packet switched data network;

b. exchanging data having a first priority over said first network connection;

c. concurrently exchanging data having a second priority over said second network connection.

13. (once amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said connections are TCP/IP connections, at first and second defined logical ports at said telephony switch.

Attached is a marked-up version of the amendments made to the application by the current response. The attachment is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."